

RESOLUTIONS.

CHAPTER 1.

A JOINT RESOLUTION, on the subject of persons claimed as fugitives from labor.

APPROVED—December 31, 1818.

WHEREAS sundry persons destitute of every principal of humanity are in the habit of seizing carrying off and selling as slaves, free persons of color who are or have been for a long time inhabitants of this state: and whereas all persons resident therein, are under the protection of our laws, and fully invested with those invaluable rights, guaranteed by our constitution namely, life, liberty & the pursuit of happiness of which they cannot be divested but on conviction of crime against the community of which they may claim to be members, by a jury of their country according to law. Therefore most solemnly disavowing all interference, between those persons who may be fugitives from service and those citizens of other states, who may have a just claim to such service. whenever such claim is legally established we deem it our just right to demand the proofs of such claim to service according to our laws. Wherefore.

Preamble.

Resolved, by the general assembly of the state of Indiana, that our senators in

congress be instructed and our representative be requested, to use their exertions to prevent congress from enacting any law, the provision of which would deprive any person resident in this state, claimed as a fugitive from service of a legal constitutional trial, according to the laws of this state before they shall be removed therefrom.